

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
JULY 17, 1998

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, July 17, 1998, at 10:00 a.m., at the Broadwater Resort East, in Biloxi, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Sara Fox, Joanna Heidel, Billy Hewes, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

**Member absent:** Yvonne Brown.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Evelyn Webb, and Frankie Walton-White..

**Guests in attendance:** Dr. Tommy Davis, representing East Mississippi Community College, Dr. Ted Alexander, representing Pearl River Community College, Dr. Barry Mellinger, representing Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Joe Childers, Jack Ramsey, Troy Holiday, and John Cunningham, representing Northeast Mississippi Community College, and Dr. David Cole, representing Itawamba Community College.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 10:00 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

The invocation was given by Joanna Heidel.

Mr. Walker recognized guests in attendance and requested that they give their names and the institutions they were representing.

**Approval of Minutes of June 19, 1998, Board Meeting**

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 19, 1998, meeting.

**Review of Agenda**

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the addition of an item to the Finance Report, 6. Revision of Purchasing Policy.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray reported on a meeting he attended with Dwight Evans to develop recommendations for a workgroup that will examine Mississippi's educational technology needs; this meeting was a follow-up activity to the Mississippi.Future.Net Conference, sponsored by the Council for Educational Technology.

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Dr. Ray also updated the Board on meetings he attended regarding the IHL study of educational needs on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He stated that a sufficient amount of progress has been made in examining ways to bring together community and junior colleges with university interests to meet the area's needs. A visit is planned to examine an existing site in Houston, Texas where community colleges and universities are coordinating to deliver services without duplication of services.

Dr. Ray reported on the SBCJC's efforts to continue to examine the issue of adequate insurance coverage for Mississippi's community and junior colleges.

Dr. Ray announced that Adrien Landry has accepted the position of SBCJC Webmaster, and will join the staff on August 3, 1998.

On August 3, and 4, 1998, a two day workshop will be held at the Eagle Ridge Conference Center to train community and junior college personnel on offering courses via the Internet. The workshop is a collaborative effort between the SBCJC and the community and junior college presidents.

Dr. Ray updated the Board on an RFP issued in response to a Legislative mandate which authorized \$117,000 for the SBCJC to establish a process whereby a community college would work with a local public school district to provide support for technology. He reported that a single response had been received and that SBCJC staff would begin negotiations to finalize the arrangement for the community college to provide support for a high school within their district.

Dr. Ray stated that he planned to be out of the office on July 27, 1998, to speak to the Rotary Club in Tupelo, Mississippi, and at an unspecified date to respond to a subpoena with regard to a court case involving Northeast Mississippi Community College.

Dr. Ray stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Walt Eilers in response to an invitation from the Board to Wireless One to be present and on the agenda for today's meeting. Mr. Eilers stated that due to the status of a lease dispute between Wireless One and Mississippi EdNet, Wireless One felt it best to defer their presentation to the Board.

## **REPORTS/ACTION**

### **MACJC Report**

Dr. Ted Alexander thanked the Board for their cards, plants, calls, and prayers during his recovery from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Dr. Alexander then reported on the following items discussed at the June 23, 1998, meeting of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

Mr. Jerry McBride, Executive Director of the Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA) addressed the Association about membership in the MMA. Mr. McBride announced that each year the MMA Board of Directors approves a Chairman's Award in the amount of \$10,000 that (1) recognizes contributions to the enhancement of the quality of life in Mississippi, (2) recognizes the MMA Board Chairman's service to the organization, (3) enhances the image of manufacturing, and (4) promotes the spirit,

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purpose and ideals that Mississippi manufacturers represent. This year's award was presented on June 30, 1998, to the Industrial Engineering Program of Holmes Community College.

Dr. William McHenry gave a report on the Rural Health Corps Initiative to improve rural health services and accessibility while maintaining the quality of the programs. He presented a power point overview detailing distance learning for nursing education in Mississippi outlining the rationale and scope of the project.

Dr. Ray gave a brief update on the Gulf Coast Initiative. The University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, and the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of Higher Learning are continuing to discuss present and long term needs for higher education on the Gulf Coast.

During the last legislative session, a line item appropriation for funding to support the Electronic Advisory Council was approved to help develop, design, and support programs for distance learning. One priority for this funding has been identified in the area of training for technical and instructional personnel on how to use the Internet as a teaching tool. Plans are to develop a budget that would allow for 3-5 instructional personnel and 1-2 technical personnel (webmaster) from each of the colleges to come together for a 2 day work session for this training.

Dr. Ted Alexander reported to the Association on the update of the History of Community and Junior Colleges. Dr. Dale Parnell, immediate past president of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, has agreed to write an introduction to the second volume. The University Press of Mississippi has met with committee representatives and is preparing an indication of cost involved for printing and publication. The committee is also preparing a formal proposal for presentation to two Foundations to obtain funding to help defray the cost of the project.

Dr. Alexander distributed copies of the program for the 1998 Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Trustees meeting that begins at 3:00 p. m. today.

### Presentation of Service Plaques

SBCJC Chairman, George Walker, presented a plaque to Dr. Barry Mellinger, in recognition of his service as President of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College from 1986 - 1999. Mr. Walker also presented a plaque to Dr. Mellinger in recognition of his service as Chairman of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges from 1996 - 1998.

The SBCJC also had prepared a plaque for presentation to Dr. William Scaggs, in recognition of his service as President of Meridian Community College from 1968-1998. Dr. Scaggs could not attend the meeting.

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### Finance Report

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve General Fund 2298 disbursements for August 1998, the amount of \$6,376,235 (Exhibit A).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Fund 4080 and 4110 in the amount of \$2,084,940.16 (Exhibit B).

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve a revision in the SBCJC purchasing policy concerning purchases of more than \$1,500 but not more than \$10,000, and purchases of more than \$10,000, to include a statement with an exception for all purchases over \$5,000 covered by the Department of Information and Technology Services law (Exhibit C).

Mr. Seal also presented the following reports that did not require action but were for the Board members' review:

Capital Improvements and Technology Bond Costs - Past, Present & Future (Exhibit D)  
Recap of FY 1998 Support Expenditures (Exhibit E)  
Student Tuition Fees per Semester for FY 1999 (Exhibit F)  
Tuition and Fee Increase FY 1999 over FY 1998 (Exhibit G).

### Program Committee

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve an Associate Degree program in Microcomputer Technology for Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Wesson campus.

### Board's Position on Gaming Instruction

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution for presentation to the Legislature in support of allowing community and junior colleges to train employees of the gaming industry in specific areas.

### Funding and Formula Committee Report

John Junkin reported on the activities of the SBCJC Funding and Formula Study Committee. The Committee has planned to present the concepts of moving to an FTE formula to the MACJC, community and junior college business managers, registrars and directors of institutional research for their information and comments. Mr. Junkin stated that it is anticipated that a "stepped" recommendation will be presented to the Board for their review and further action in the near future.

### Workforce Education Report

Governor Kirk Fordice reappointed George Walker and Jimmy Heidel as Co-Chairman of the State Workforce Council for another four year term.

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Mr. Walker announced that the Joint Legislative Budget Office Hearings for the SBCJC and the State Workforce Council have been set for September 17, 1998, at 2:00 and 3:30 p.m. respectively.

Mr. Walker reported on a meeting of the One Stop Inter-Agency Executive Council (OSIEC). The members of the State Workforce Council have been appointed to serve on OSIEC.

Mr. Walker also reported on the proposal for a School-to-Work federal grant in the amount of \$19,200,000. This grant would cover a three year period and is designed to help public high schools facilitate students' success, encourage them to stay in school, and upon graduation to go into employment, community and junior colleges, or universities.

Mr. Walker reported that the State Workforce Council (SWC) voted to participate in the MACJC's regional legislative meetings to present FY 2000 budget needs. At each meeting a SWC representative from that local district will be allowed to make a 10 minute presentation.

Mr. Walker reported on a concept paper prepared by Dr. Charles Chrestman of Itawamba Community College with regard to Advanced Technology Centers (ATC). The paper suggested that the ATCs should be located at the present Skill/Tech Centers rather than create duplicate centers. Mr. Walker also discussed with the Board a flow chart prepared by SWC member Charles Holder giving a definition of areas of advanced technology (Exhibit H).

Mr. Walker reported that he will have a meeting with Dr. Montgomery, Chief of the Economics Department at the University of Alabama, on Monday, July 27, 1998, to discuss workforce training in Mississippi.

Mr. Walker reported on a conference he attended at Eagle Ridge sponsored by Mississippi State University and the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development with regard to establishing a nationwide center for the study and encouragement of rural community colleges.

#### EdNet Report

Dr. Ray reported that he had requested that the policy proposal and procedures approved by the SBCJC with regard to being notified in advance of substantive changes in the way they do business that would effect SBCJC programs or money, be placed on an EdNet Board meeting for action. Dr. Ray attended the meeting and voiced the SBCJC's concern and spoke in behalf of EdNet approving the policy proposal.

#### Statewide Information Initiative/Survey

Dr. Evelyn Webb updated the Board regarding the Statewide Information Initiative. Dr. Webb distributed a copy of a survey mailed to the community and junior colleges that will be completed by students enrolled in summer classes (Exhibit I). The purpose of the initiative is to learn what the citizens know and think about Mississippi's community and junior colleges in order to respond with information to Mississippians about the mission of the colleges. Dr. Webb asked that Board members complete the survey at their leisure and retain the copy for their files.

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Recommendation for Reappointment to the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Dr. Shirley Hopkins Davis to the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration for a term of five years ending June 30, 2002.

Appointment of Committee Chairs

Mr. Walker appointed the following SBCJC members to serve as committee chairmen for the upcoming year: Joanna Heidel - Program, Sara Fox - Finance, and George Walker - Workforce.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Patricia Puckett, seconded by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request for reimbursement of travel expenses as follows:

George Walker for attending a School-to-Careers meeting on July 7, 1998.

Other Business

Dr. Evelyn Webb stated that SBCJC Publications Specialist Tracy Heggins had suggested that pictures of the SBCJC members be included in the Annual Report. The photographs will be taken at the next Board meeting.


Dr. Olon Ray stated that an article featuring the SBCJC would appear in the Sunday Perspective Section of the Clarion Ledger newspaper.

Dr. Ray also stated that he would be interviewed by a representative of the Mobile Press Register with regard to Mississippi's Workforce Education Act.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Sara Fox, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

  
George Walker, Chairman

  
Olon E. Ray  
Executive Director